**SPRING GROVE CITY COUNCIL**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**February 15, 2022, 6:00 PM**

**Spring Grove Communications, Room 100**

Mayor Solberg called the February Spring Grove City Council meeting to order at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Council present: Mayor Scott Solberg, Council Members; Karen Folstad, Chad Rohland, Travis Torgerson, and Trent Turner.

Staff present: Administrator Amundson, and Kathleen Taylor.

Guest present: Charlene Selbee with Fillmore County Journal, Tony Tomashek with Mathy Companies, Joel Reinhart and Paxton King with Midwest Industrial Fuels, Lee Hoekstra and Robert Vogel Planning and Zoning Commission, Harlee Gavin, and Officer Nick Bruns.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

Council Member Turner moved to adopt the agenda seconded, by Council Member Rohland, all voted in favor, motion passed.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Council Member Torgerson moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Council Member Turner, all voted in favor, motion passed.

**OPEN FORUM**

None

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Solberg opened the Public Hearing in pursuant to Minnesota Statue §462.355 subd. (c) at 6:08 pm. The purpose of this public hearing is to discuss the application for a Conditional Use Permit by Midwest Industrial Fuels Inc. dba Consolidated Energy to allow propane bulk storage tanks in the General Industrial Park. The plan is to move a propane tank currently located on parcel 26.0581.01 to parcels 26.0663.000 and 26.0664.000 and add and additional propane tank. The propane tanks would be 30,000 and 18,000 gallons. Also building a storage/office building that would be a slab on grade building.

Presentation: Council Member Torgersen gave a brief explanation of events from the Planning and Zoning meeting held on February 1, 2022. Stating that the Commission was unable to bring a recommendation to City Council due to the way current ordinances are written. Attorney Schieber explained the Ordinance states a short list of permitted uses under general industrial. The Council will need to decide what they want and what will be allowed and amend the ordinances accordingly.

Statements from the Public: Mr. Reinhart introduced himself and explained Consolidated Energy is part of the Mathy Family of Companies since 1945 and they service areas in Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin and recently acquired Severson’s from Houston area. They feel it is a good use for the general industrial park and wants to keep their business local. Mr. Tomashek stated this specific use isn’t listed, but liquid bulk storage is talked about in the ordinance and states a Conditional Use Permit is required. All parties agreed they are unable to tag team under another listed category, but similar uses are already in the general industrial park. Consolidated Energy is willing to stand by and wait until the ordinance is amended. Mr. Vogel questioned allowing bulk propane storage as a permitted use when the ordinance was revised, bulk storage of any kind was not allowed.

Conclusion of Public Hearing: At 6:18 pm City Council stated they can’t authorize anything tonight and this requires exploring amending the current ordinance. Mayor Solberg moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Council Member Torgerson, all voted in favor, motion passed.

Council Discussion and Action: Discussion was held concerning the current ordinance and what has happened in the past is water under the bridge and will be listed as non-conforming. Council Member Torgerson moved to have Administrator Amundson return the CUP to Consolidated Energy stating the application is incomplete, and in need of a site plan review, seconded by Council Member Rohland, all voted in favor, motion passed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Administrator Amundson gave a brief update on the Building/Grounds and Meter Reader position. There have been four applications received and the closing date is February28, 2022.

Harlee Gavin gave an update on the Swim Center. There is more of a need for private lessons vs group lesson. Application to work at the Swim Center will be accepted until March 4, 2022. Council Member Rohland moved to table deciding on hours the Swim Center will be open until the March meeting, seconded by Council Member Torgerson, all voted in favor, motion passed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Administrator Amundson reviewed the zoning fees and explained the need for an increase. After much discussion, Mayor Solberg moved to increase the permit fees by 25% and round to even numbers. Seconded by Council Member Rohland, all voted in favor, motion passed.

The new fees are as follows and will be published the week of February 28th and posted.

Variance Application - $200.00, Administrative Fee - $125.00, Site Plan Review - $75.00. Zoning Fence, Deck, Pool, Wheelchair Ramp, Retaining Wall, Outdoor Advertising Signs - $25.00, Accessory Building, Garage, Demolition - $75.00, Commercial Addition - $125.00, Value to $50,000.00 - $375.00, Value above $50,000.00 - $500.00, Conditional Use Permit - $200.00, Residential Value to $149,000 and single story - $250.00, Value $149,001 and anything over 1.5 to 2 stories - $375.00 and Residential Addition - $75.00.

Joint Powers of City of Spring Grove on behalf of its City Attorney and Police Department Resolution 22-11 was presented. This is a resolution that allows the prosecuting attorney to access to court documents. Mayor Solberg moved to approve Resolution 22-11, seconded by Council Member Torgerson, all voted in favor, motion passed.

Administrator Amundson explained the LMC Liability Cover Waiver Form, saying that the City is not waiving the statutory tort limit. No action was taken.

Request from Kwik Trip for a Commercial Rebate on replacing all their light bulbs with LED lights was reviewed. Council Member Rohland moved to approve the rebate of 50% of the cost of the bulbs, seconded by Council Member Folstad, all voted in favor, motion carried.

Council Member Folstad moved to approve the temporary liquor license for YOOH and Lions Club, seconded by Council Member Torgerson, all voted in favor, motion passed.

The route for the Running of the Gnomies 5K was discussed. No streets will be shut down, and volunteers will be helping at intersections. No action was taken.

**MAYOR/COUNCIL**

Next Council Meeting will be March 15, 2022, at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be held at Spring Grove Communications, Room 100.

Administrator Amundson presented the Social Media Policy for the City of Spring Grove. There has never been one in place before. Mayor Solberg moved to approve the model Social Media Policy No. A-05-02

**MEETING REPORTS**

EDA – Moved the Restaurant Challenge to phase II. Revocity is purchasing a current restaurant and looking for someone to operate it.

PARKS & REC – No meeting.

PLANNING & ZONING – Reviewed the CUP for Midwest.

LIBRARY – Tabled the full-time position, looking to hire two part-timers to fill in, working on annual report

FIRE DEPARTMENT – No meeting

Mayor Solberg moved to adjourn meeting at 7:13 pm, seconded by Council Member Turner, all voted in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted.

Attested by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Julie Amundson

Clerk/Administrator